

# Innovative and traditional techniques are helping to restore New England's largest salt marsh



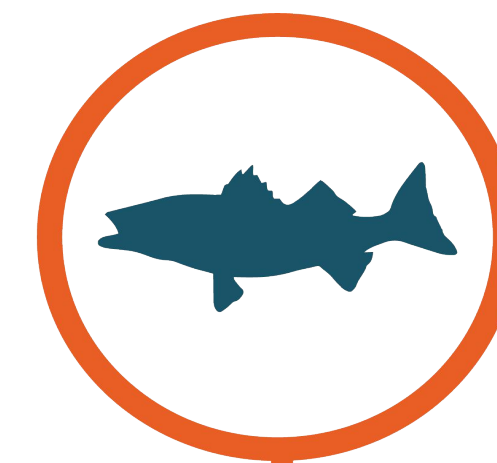
## VALUE OF THE GREAT MARSH

The Great Marsh Partnership works to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance the Great Marsh

The Great Marsh is a huge economic engine for the region, providing value as a destination for boaters, birdwatchers, sportsmen, & artists as well as commercial clambers, fishers, and hayers



REGIONAL ECONOMY



COMMERCIAL FISHERY

75% of commercially harvested fish spend at least one phase of their life cycle in the marsh

Migratory shore birds use the area as a significant stop over along the North Atlantic Flyway



MIGRATORY STOP-OVER

The barrier beach and associated marsh is the first line of defense against storm surge and wave energy



FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

The marsh platform vegetation and subtidal plant line provide an important carbon sink for greenhouse gas emissions

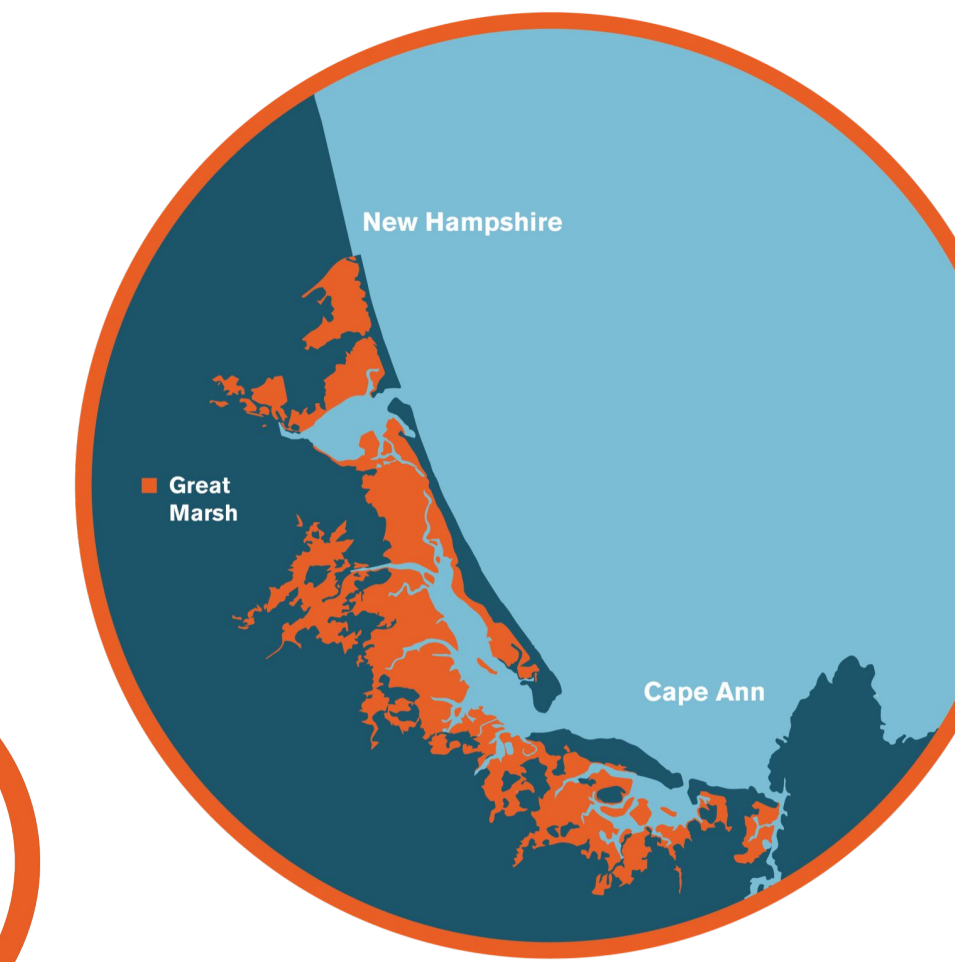


CARBON SINK



NATURAL FILTER

The wetlands absorb and stabilize pollutants from our roads, lawns, rivers, and wastewater treatment facilities



## Why it Matters

A healthy, functioning salt marsh is a natural protective barrier against storm waves and sea level rise that damage coastal buildings and roadways and disrupt businesses.

## Innovative techniques



"Living shorelines" (natural plantings) help to prevent **Marsh Edge Erosion**.



A **Thin Layer of Sediment** on the marsh surface helps to keep up with sea level rise.



Marsh habitat is protected by large-scale trapping of **Invasive Green Crabs**.

**Runnels** are shallow channels on the marsh surface that connect to marsh creeks. They drain extra water from sea level rise allowing for marsh vegetation to grow.



## Traditional techniques



Eelgrass beds have declined across the state. **Restoring eelgrass** traps sediment, stabilizes tidal channels, and reduces waves during storms.

Removing invasive plants allows native plants to return.



## What You Can Do

### THE GREAT MARSH NEEDS YOUR HELP!

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- SUPPORT EFFORTS OF THE GREAT MARSH PARTNERSHIP BY:
- Getting involved in one of our projects in your community or the region;
  - Supporting Partnership-led legislative funding and grant proposals;
  - Doing your part to protect the marsh from pollutants and detrimental actions;
  - Sponsoring activities the Partnership is engaged in;
  - Donating resources necessary for Partnership-led projects;
  - Enjoying the Great Marsh and accessing its many opportunities!

#### WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Protection! A healthy, vibrant Great Marsh protects you and your local community;
- Recreational activities and enjoyment of nature;
- Connection with your regional legislators and local and state decision makers;
- Media exposure and good will from helping your community;
- Recognition from local stakeholders;
- Financial benefits

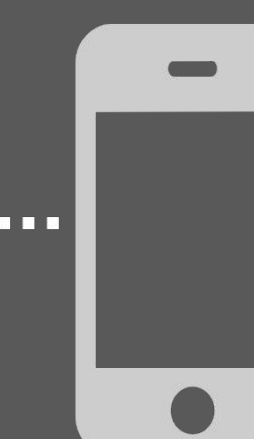


#### CONTACT US!

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Take a photo to visit the Partnership's website

